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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7410

BILL NUMBER: HB 1478

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 6, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: School performance.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Kersey

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a school may not be placed in the lowest performance category or be sanctioned for poor performance until the school has received adequate funding to fully carry out the school's improvement and achievement plan for at least three consecutive years.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill prevents a school from being placed in the lowest performance category or be sanctioned for poor performance until the school has received adequate funding to fully carry out the school's improvement and achievement plan for at least three consecutive years. The impact depends on the definition of adequate. The bill does not require the state to provide adequate funding but prevents the state from placing the school in the lowest performance category if the funding is not provided. The new accreditation system that uses the school's improvement and achievement plan begins with the 2005-06 school year. No schools have been sanctioned to date.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill prevents a school from being placed in the lowest performance category or be sanctioned for poor performance until the school has received adequate funding to fully carry out the school's improvement and achievement plan for at least three consecutive years. Depending on the definition of adequate, schools could experience a reduction in costs from not being required to implement the consequences in being the lowest category of performance. The potential savings are unknown.

Background: The new accreditation system that uses the school's improvement and achievement plan begins with the 2005-06 school year. No schools have been sanctioned to date. The first year that a school is placed in the lowest category or designation of school improvement. The State Board Education notify the school that is in the lowest category or designation of school improvement. Upon receiving the notice, the local school board shall:

- (1) issue a public notice of the school's lack of improvement; and
- (2) hold a public hearing in which public testimony is received concerning the lack of improvement.

The committee that developed the school's improvement plan shall revise the school's plan. A revision under may include any of the following:

- (1) Shifting resources.
- (2) Changing personnel.

(3) A request to the board to appoint an outside team to manage the school or assist in the development of a new plan.

The third year after initial placement in the lowest category or designation, a school still remaining in the lowest category or designation shall establish and assign an expert team to the school. The expert team:

- (1) must include representatives from the community or region that the school serves; and
- (2) may include:
 - (A) school superintendents, members of governing bodies, and teachers from school corporations that are in high categories or designations; and
 - (B) special consultants or advisers.

The expert team shall:

- (1) assist the school in revising the school's plan; and
- (2) recommend changes, including the reallocation of resources or requests for technical assistance, in the school that will promote improvement.

The fifth year after initial placement in the lowest category or designation, a school still remaining in the lowest category or designation shall hold at least one public hearing in the school corporation where the school is located to consider and hear testimony concerning the following options for school improvement:

- (1) Merging the school with a nearby school that is in a higher category.
- (2) Assigning a special management team to operate all or part of the school.
- (3) The department's recommendations for improving the school.
- (4) Other options for school improvement expressed at the public hearing, including closing the school.
- (5) Revising the school's plan in any of the following areas:
 - a. Changes in school procedures or operations.
 - b. Professional development.
 - c. Intervention for individual teachers or administrators.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local School Corporations.

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